



## 2005 Report of Accomplishments (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005) Ferry Conservation District

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### Most Significant Natural Resource Accomplishment

*In cooperation with NRCS, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ferry Conservation District assisted a local landowner in restoring seven acres of shrub-steppe and riparian wildlife habitat along the San Poil River. The project included 1600 feet of riparian buffer, a pond for migratory water fowl, ten different shrub and hardwood Habitat plantings, range grass seeding, and facilities to encourage raptors. This project is so successful that we nominated the landowner for a Stewardship award.*



**Bank stabilization on the San Poil River**

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### Mission of the Ferry Conservation District

- *The conservation of renewable natural resources as a key element in providing conditions conducive to sustainable rural lifestyles, profitable local businesses, and a healthy environment.*

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### Natural Resource Improvements in 2005 - Summary

- *Fish barrier removal resulted in restoring 4 ½ stream miles of fish habitat.*
- *Eight acres of wildlife habitat developed and restored, including 1600 feet of riparian buffer.*
- *4000 feet of Kettle River bank stabilized, resulting in the prevention of siltation, and preserving the stabilizing native vegetation.*
- *Made contact with four other landowners with the intention of continuing the Kettle River stabilization projects.*

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### Water Quality Implementation

- *Our most significant water quality improvement project is the continuing water quality monitoring program in the San Poil watershed. Since November 2004, 1764 water quality samples and 72 flow monitoring tests have been taken.*
- *Other projects include stabilizing ¾ mile of Kettle River bank. This stabilization project ensures the integrity of approximately five more miles of riverbank vegetation and wildlife habitat. It also protects and improves the irrigation efficiency for two hay operations.*
- *FCD assisted landowners with a community septic system that replaced four old leaking systems with one efficient one.*
- *Total on-the-ground dollars spent FY2005—\$34,000*

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### Basic Funding

- *Basic Funding is used mainly for salaries and administrative expenses not eligible for reimbursement under grant projects. A good portion of these funds relate to educating landowners in the process of BMP design and implementation.*
  - *Other uses include development of the District's website to include current grant activities, travel and training expenses, and miscellaneous maintenance and repairs.*
  - *Finally, Basic Funding dollars are used to write grant applications for funds that will be used for the planning and implementation of other conservation projects. FCD was able to secure 3 new grant projects this fiscal year.*
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## **Livestock/Dairy**

- *Two staff people trained on Livestock Influenced Water Quality issues in preparation to provide education, survey, assessment and cost-share services to local farmers and ranchers. This is the first Livestock/Dairy funding FCD has received.*
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## **Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration**

- *We continued to work on the District's Outdoor Education, Wetland Rehabilitation and Wildlife Refuge site.*
  - *Our previously mentioned riparian habitat project was our best project of the year. We also continued our water quality monitoring and habitat assessment for the San Poil River headwaters. This work will allow us to present the best options for effective BMP's to the WIPMT. It is difficult to implement good projects without prior research.*
  - *FCD acted as project sponsor for a WDFW/DNR-funded Family Forest Fish Protection project to replace a fish barrier culvert and restore 4 1/2 miles of anadromous fish habitat.*
  - *Total on-the-ground dollars spent FY2005—\$16,000*
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## **Community Collaboration & Coordination**

- *We continued to coordinate the San Poil Watershed Improvement Project Management Team, to provide guidance and advice for our Headwaters of the San Poil (HOSP) project.*
  - *Continued to work with Ferry County PUD on Biomass and alternative hydropower generation projects, provided technical assistance to Curlew Lake Association, Kettle River Advisory Board, Ferry County Cattlemen's Association, and National Forest Range Lessee's Association. We also provide technical assistance to the Board of county Commissioners, and the Community Development Authority.*
  - *Employed Job Corps personnel to assist with public projects.*
  - *Total on-the-ground dollars spent FY2005—\$13,600*
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## **Marketing/Outreach & Education**

- *In FY 2005, Ferry Conservation District staff organized and coordinated the annual Ferry County Spring Conservation Fair. Other participants included Ferry County/WSU Extension, USFS, Job Corps, NRCS, FSA, Ferry County Solid Waste Management, and the Kettle River Advisory Board. The event consisted of education booths, entertainment and activities for youngsters, including a spring fishing derby. FCD's annual Tree and Plant Sale was also part of the day's activities.*
- *Other adult education events included our education/information booth at the Ferry County Fair and a water quality-monitoring workshop. Our Plant Sale brochure is a native plant education pamphlet that we send to more than 2000 people. All together, our adult education and outreach reached over 7000 people.*
- *Youth-focused education includes the Lake Roosevelt Water Festival that reaches over 700 fourth graders from our region in a two-day event each fall. Kinross Gold Arbor Day is a second area-wide education function. Staff people also teach soils science, wetland ecology, and riparian health classes in local schools.*
- *Total on-the-ground dollars spent FY2005—\$22,400*



**Lake Roosevelt Water Festival  
Classroom in the Outdoors**